CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method, comprising:

in response to a probe request, transmitting a nonce in a probe response.

2. A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising receiving a pairwise master key based information element as a reassociate request from a user station that received the transmitted nonce, wherein the user station generates the pairwise master key based information element based on the nonce transmitted in the probe response, an additional nonce, and a message integrity code, the message integrity code being derived from the pairwise master key.

3. A method as claimed in claim 2, further comprising:

generating a pairwise master key response element based on the additional nonce and an additional message integrity code, the additional message integrity code being derived from the pairwise master key; and

transmitting the pairwise master response element as a reassociation response.

4. A method as claimed in claim 3, further comprising communicating with the user station after the user station receives the reassociation response.

5. A method, comprising:

transmitting a probe request to an access point; and

receiving a nonce transmitted in response to the probe request.

6. A method as claimed in claim 5, further comprising:

generating a pairwise master key based information element based on the nonce transmitted in the probe response, an additional nonce, and a message integrity code, the message integrity code being derived from the pairwise master key; and

transmitting the pairwise master key based information element as a reassociate request to the access point.

7. A method as claimed in claim 6, further comprising receiving a pairwise master key response element from the access point, wherein the pairwise master key is response element is transmitted by the access point as a reassociation response and is based on the additional nonce and an additional message integrity code, the additional message integrity code being derived from the pairwise master key.

8. A method as claimed in claim 7, further comprising communicating with the access point after receiving the reassociation response.

9. An article of manufacture comprising a storage medium having stored thereon instructions that, when executed by a computing platform, result in an authenticated key exchange, by:

transmitting a nonce in a probe response in response to a probe request.

10. An article as claimed in claim 9, wherein the instructions, when executed, further result in an authenticated key exchange by receiving a pairwise master key based information element as a reassociate request from a user station that received the transmitted nonce, wherein the user station generates the pairwise master key based information element based on the nonce transmitted in the probe response, an additional nonce, and a message integrity code, the message integrity code being derived from the pairwise master key.

11. An article as claimed in claim 10, wherein the instructions, when executed, further result in an authenticated key exchange by:

generating a pairwise master key response element based on the additional nonce and an additional message integrity code, the additional message integrity code being derived from the pairwise master key; and

transmitting the pairwise master response element as a reassociation response.

12. An article as claimed in claim 11, wherein the instructions, when executed, further result in an authenticated key exchange by communicating with the user station after the user station receives the reassociation response.

13. An article of manufacture comprising a storage medium having stored thereon instructions that, when executed by a computing platform, result in an authenticated key exchange, by:

transmitting a probe request to an access point; and

receiving a nonce transmitted in response to the probe request.

14. An article as claimed in claim 13, wherein the instructions, when executed, further result in an authenticated key exchange by:

generating a pairwise master key based information element based on the nonce transmitted in the probe response, an additional nonce, and a message integrity code, the message integrity code being derived from the pairwise master key; and

transmitting the pairwise master key based information element as a reassociate request to the access point.

15. An article as claimed in claim 14, wherein the instructions, when executed, further result in an authenticated key exchange by receiving a pairwise master key response element from the access point, wherein the pairwise master key is response element is transmitted by the access point as a reassociation response and is based on the additional nonce and an additional message integrity code, the additional message integrity code being derived from the pairwise master key.

16. An article as claimed in claim 15, wherein the instructions, when executed, further result in an authenticated key exchange by communicating with the access point after receiving the reassociation response.

17. An apparatus, comprising:

an omnidirectional antenna;

a transceiver coupled to said omnidirectional antenna; and

a baseband processor to generate a probe request to be transmitted to an access point, and to receive a nonce transmitted in response to the probe request.

18. An apparatus as claimed in claim 17, said baseband processor to generate a pairwise master key based information element based on the nonce transmitted in the probe response, an additional nonce, and a message integrity code, the message integrity code being derived from the pairwise master key, the pairwise master key based information element to be transmitted as a reassociate request to the access point.

19. An apparatus as claimed in claim 18, said baseband processor to receive a pairwise master key response element from the access point, wherein the pairwise master key response element is transmitted by the access point as a reassociation response and is based on the additional nonce and an additional message integrity code, the additional message integrity code being derived from the pairwise master key.

20. An apparatus as claimed in claim 19, said baseband processor to establish communication with the access point after receiving the reassociation response.